BOOM! STUDIOS™

JAMES TYNION IV

WERTHER DELL'EDERA

MIQUEL MUERTO

Nº8

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

mmmmmmh...

=COFF=

=COFF COFF COFF=

OW, JESUS.

GUESS YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SHOT BEFORE, HUH?

OH, YOU KNOW.

NOT TOO OFTEN.

I GOT SHOT ONCE. OUT HUNTING WITH SOME FRIENDS...TOOK A BULLET RIGHT IN THE THIGH.

STILL HURTS IF I TWIST MY ANKLE JUST RIGHT.

I GUESS I'LL TRY... NOT TO TWIST?

YEAH. GOOD IDEA.

YOU'RE THE SHERIFF.

YEAH.

ARE YOU HERE TO ARREST ME?

NO.

I JUST... I DON'T KNOW...

FUCK.

YOU LOOK STRESSED.

HAH! HAHAHA!

YOU *SOUND* STRESSED, TOO.

THEY'RE COMING AT ME FROM ALL ANGLES, KID.

BUT NOBODY IS TELLING ME A GODDAMN THING THAT MAKES SENSE.

OKAY?

I WANT YOU TO GIVE IT TO ME STRAIGHT. I'VE BEEN THINKING ON IT, AND I THINK I CAN HANDLE IT.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

JAMES. I NEED YOU TO TELL ME ABOUT THE ALIENS.

THE...

THE *WHAT?!*

THE... I DON'T KNOW...THE FUCKING *ALIENS!*

THE THINGS THAT ARE KILLING PEOPLE, AND RIPPING THROUGH WALLS BUT WALKING THROUGH FURNITURE!

IT'S NOT ALIENS.

...FUCK.

YOU *WANTED* IT TO BE ALIENS? THAT WAS GOING TO MAKE YOU FEEL *BETTER?*

I MEAN, I GUESS I DON'T *KNOW* THAT THEY'RE NOT ALIENS, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE THEY AREN'T.

THEN *WHAT,* DAMMIT?! WHAT MAKES ANY SENSE WITH *ALL* OF THIS?

IT'S MONSTERS.

LIKE... DRACULA?

NOT LIKE DRACULA... MORE LIKE...I DON'T KNOW. A BIG *SHADOW THING* THAT EATS KIDS.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY CALL IT.

DO YOU KNOW WHO *THEY* ARE? ERICA... THE PEOPLE SHE WORKS FOR.

NOT REALLY. I DON'T THINK SHE LIKES THEM VERY MUCH.

DO YOU TRUST HER, THOUGH?

I MEAN... KIND OF?

I GOT SHOT. AND THEN SHE STABBED THAT GUY WHO SHOT ME IN THE HEAD SO HE COULD SEE THE MONSTERS TOO...

BUT THEN HE GOT US OUT OF THERE, SO MAYBE THAT WAS RIGHT.

WAIT. TOMMY MAHONEY?

YEAH? I THINK?

HE CAN SEE THEM, TOO?

I THINK SO.

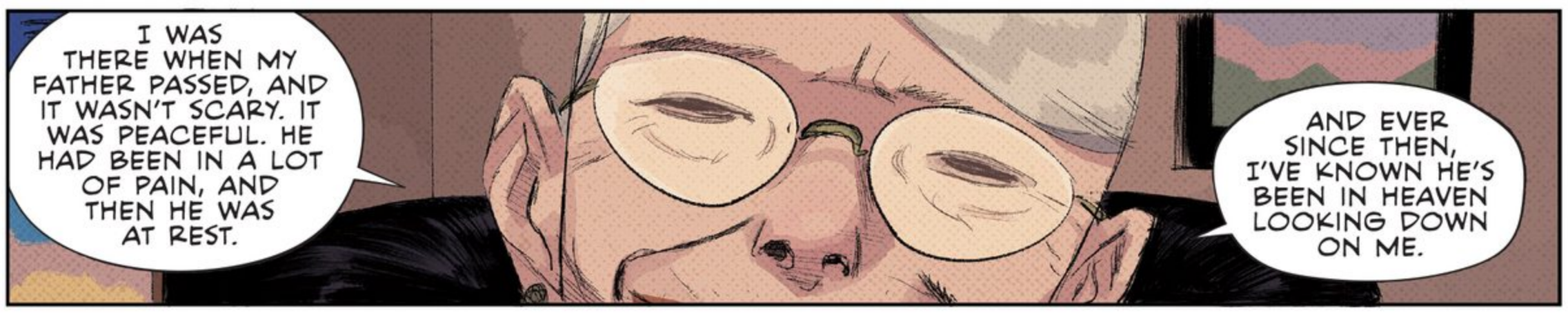
ARE YOU OKAY?

NO.

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN

HEY GAIL, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A DEAD PERSON?
OH, SURE.

WAS IT SCARY?


I WAS THERE WHEN MY FATHER PASSED, AND IT WASN'T SCARY. IT WAS PEACEFUL. HE HAD BEEN IN A LOT OF PAIN, AND THEN HE WAS AT REST.
AND EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE KNOWN HE'S BEEN IN HEAVEN LOOKING DOWN ON ME.

THAT SOUNDS NICE.

DID ANYTHING TRY TO EAT HIM?

I'M... I'M SORRY, DEAR?

DID ANYTHING TRY TO EAT HIS BODY?

HEY BIAN.
OH. HI.
WE'RE GOING TO GO FOR A LITTLE DRIVE NOW.
OKAY.
THIS IS THE POLICE STATION?
DON'T.
I'M SIMPLY SEEING WHAT RESOURCES ARE AT OUR DISPOSAL.
OR RATHER, *LACK* OF RESOURCES.
CAN I TAKE STUFF TO DRAW ON? I LIKE DRAWING.
YEAH.
SHE'S GOING TO DRAW ALL OVER THE SEATS IF SHE BRINGS THOSE.
GOOD.
HEY, I DREW THIS FOR YOU.
THANK YOU, DEAR.
CAN I TAKE THE MARKERS WITH ME?
WE DON'T NEED MARKERS, AND WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
I NEED THEM.
I'VE NEVER HAD SO MANY COLORS.
HOW ABOUT THIS--

YOU CAN TAKE ALL THE MARKERS YOU WANT, KID. YOU JUST NEED TO COME WITH ME.

TOM? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

BIAN. I WANT YOU TO COME OVER HERE.

I DON'T THINK YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT I'M DOING.

I'M CONFUSED...I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CALL SHERIFF JOE ABOUT ALL THIS--

I THOUGHT I KNEW THE ***LOOSE ENDS.***

JESUS, AARON.

WHY DID YOU HURT HER?!

I HURT HER BECAUSE EVERYONE IN YOUR LITTLE TOWN IS VERY STUPID, AND APPARENTLY THEY ***WANT*** THEIR CHILDREN TO KEEP BEING EATEN ALIVE!

SHUT ***UP,*** AARON.

WHY ARE YOU HERE? WHY ARE YOU SCARED OF US?

I WAS IN THE WOODS BY THE CAVE. I HEARD YOU TALKING. I HEARD ABOUT YOUR PLANS FOR "BAIT."

SHIT.

YEAH. SHIT.

I DON'T LIKE THAT MAN.

I DON'T LIKE HIM EITHER.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.

BIAN. REMEMBER, YOU WERE COLD AND I TURNED THE HEAT ON IN THE CAR. I GOT YOU AWAY FROM THE FOREST AND I GOT YOU TO SAFETY.

THESE PEOPLE WANT YOU TO SEE THE BAD THINGS AGAIN. THEY WANT TO PUT YOU IN DANGER TO DO THAT, SO THEY CAN KILL THEM.

YOU'RE GOING TO HURT THE BABIES...?

BIAN, HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND. I PROMISE YOU... I WOULD NEVER LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU...

TELL THAT TO THE HIGH SCHOOLER WITH THE ***GUNSHOT WOUND*** IN THE COUNTY HOSPITAL!

YOU'RE GOING TO HURT THE BABIES! THEY'RE JUST ***BABIES!*** THEY DON'T ***KNOW*** THEY'RE ***BAD!***

OH, FOR THE LOVE OF--

KRNCH

SORRY. HE'S AN ASSHOLE.

I WON'T LET YOU TAKE HER.

I KNOW. THAT'S OKAY. KEEP HER SAFE.

KEEP HER AWAY FROM THE WOODS, OKAY? AND NOWHERE NEAR THE SCHOOL. OR SOMEWHERE STUPID LIKE YOUR HOUSE.

YOU'RE LETTING US GO.

YOU'RE BEING AN IDIOT, BUT YOU'RE BEING AN IDIOT FOR THE RIGHT REASONS.

IF YOU WANT TO KEEP HER SAFE, KEEP HER SAFE.

NOW GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

SHIT.

OKAY, EVERYONE...

WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO DO THIS ORDERLY AS POSSIBLE.

YOU'RE GOING TO TALK TO ***PRINCIPAL COLLINS*** HERE, AND HE'S GOING TO CROSSCHECK YOUR NAME WITH THE MISSING KIDS, AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO BRING YOU IN TO IDENTIFY THE BODIES.

I'M NOT GONNA LIE, THIS IS GOING TO BE A ROUGH DAY ON EVERYONE. WE'RE ALL DOING THE BEST WE CAN. SO LET'S TRY TO DO THIS WITH SOME KIND OF SOLIDARITY.

I KNOW HE'S SCARED OF YOU LOT CHEWING HIM UP ALIVE, BUT HE'S A GOOD SOUL, AND WITHOUT HIM WE'D BE DOING THIS IN THE PIGGLY WIGGLY PARKING LOT.

THERE. ALL WARMED UP FOR YOU.

THANKS?

NO PROBLEM.

=AHEM=

WOULD THE FAMILY OF ***ALYSSA DEAN*** PLEASE STEP FORWARD?

THIS IS GOING TO TAKE HOURS.

THEN LEAVE. I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME.

MOM...

I WILL NOT HAVE YOU STAND HERE AND TRY TO TALK ME OUT OF THIS.

YOU'RE A ***GROWN MAN.*** GO FIND SOMETHING BETTER TO DO THAN GET IN EVERYONE'S WAY.

YES, MA'AM.

HEY TAM...IT'S ME. YOU WANT TO DRIVE DOWN TO THE DELLS OR SOMETHING?

I NEED TO GET THE FUCK OUT OF THIS TOWN. IT'S ALL GOTTEN TOO...

...WEIRD?

I'LL CALL YOU BACK.

Tam

WHY... DID YOU HIT ME?

IT WAS GOING IN THAT DIRECTION, AND SHE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN HURT IF YOU ACTUALLY TRIED TO ATTACK HIM.

DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW TO FIGHT A HUMAN?

SHUT UP.

THIS IS GOING TO HURT FOR A WEEK.

ALL YOU'VE DONE IS MADE ME MORE IRRITABLE.

AND HERE I THOUGHT THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE.

YOU NEED TO FIND THE GIRL. I'LL PICK UP THE BOY FROM THE HOSPITAL.

ABSOLUTELY NOT. I THINK YOU'VE PROVEN HOW GOOD YOU ARE WITH KIDS.

YOU DEAL WITH MAKING SURE THE SHERIFF DOESN'T ARREST YOU FOR ASSAULTING A SWEET OLD WOMAN, AND FINDING US A PLACE TO DO THE RITUAL.

I'LL GET YOUR BAIT.

BETTER ACT QUICK, ERICA. ALL IT'S GOING TO TAKE IS ONE KILL TO MAKE THEM A LOT DEADLIER...

IS...IS ANYBODY THERE?

IS ANYBODY...

SHIT.

HEY, IT'S ME AGAIN.

NO... FORGET ABOUT THE DELLS...

LOOK. I NEED YOU TO FIND THAT CREEPY GIRL WITH THE EYES...TELL HER THAT THOSE... ***THINGS*** ARE RIGHT BEHIND THE SCHOOL. WHERE ALL THE BODIES ARE.

TELL THEM I THINK THEY GOT ANOTHER KID.

NO, I'M NOT TELLING YOU MORE THAN THAT. ***JUST GO! FIND HER!***

SHIT.

SHIT SHIT SHIT.

REE
EEEARR
GH

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

"THE HOUSE OF SLAUGHTER"
PART THREE

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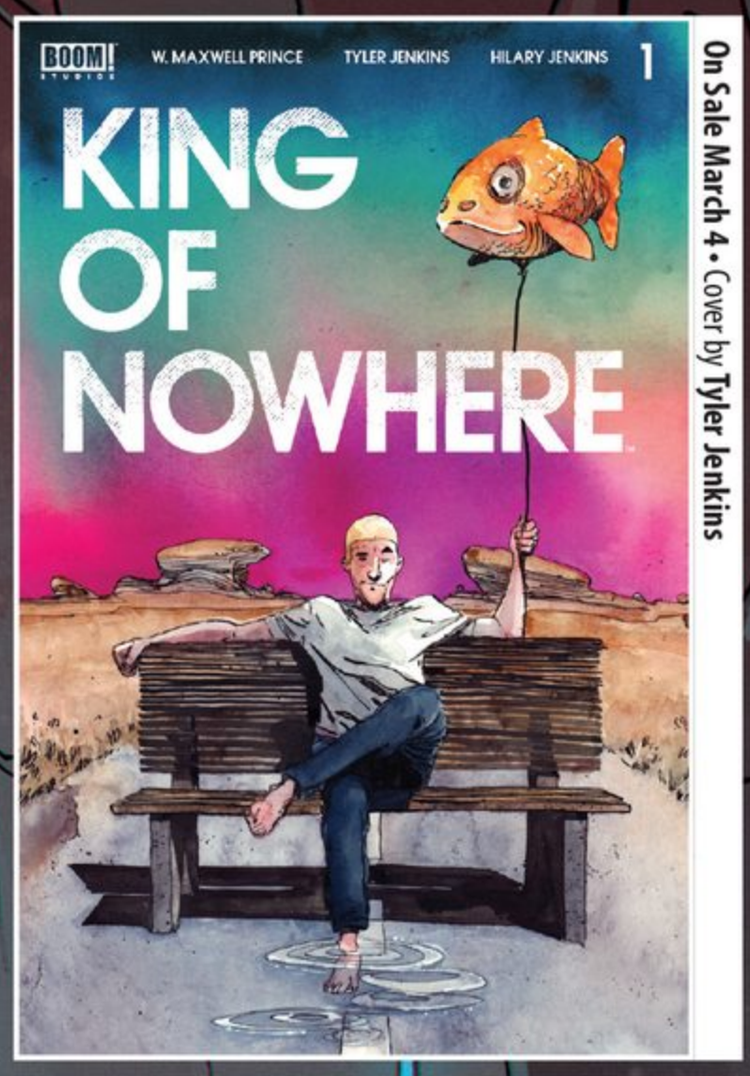

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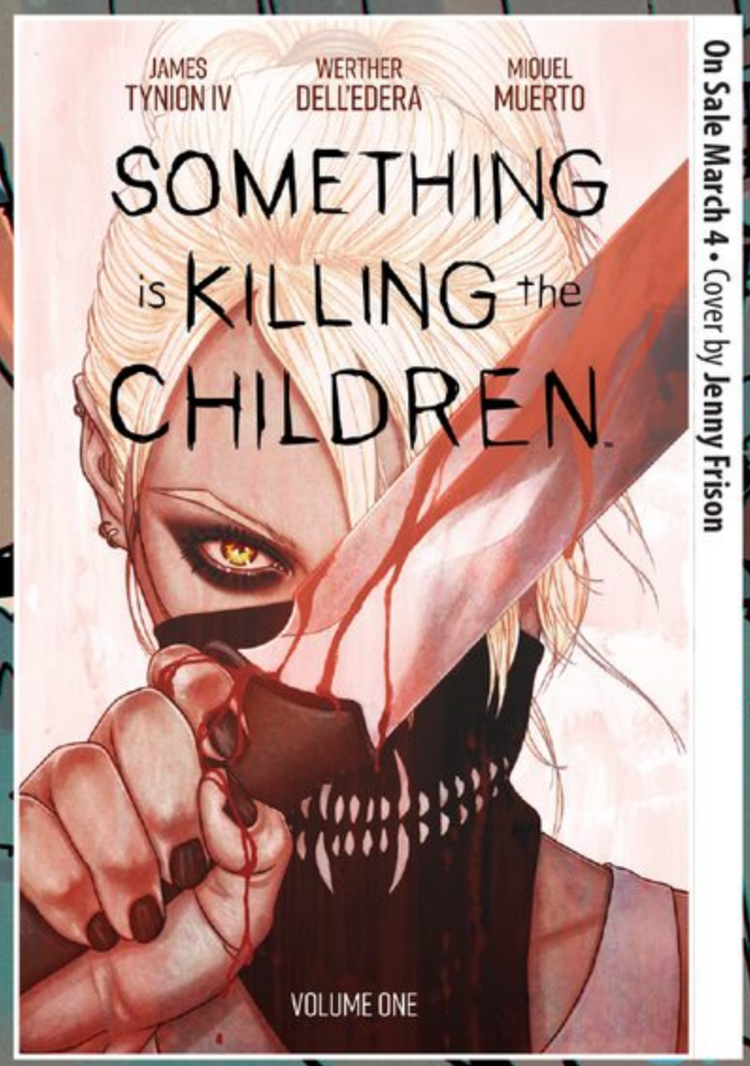
—KIERON GILLEN
(ONCE & FUTURE, DIE)



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AND ARTIST

CHRIS WILDGOOSE

(BATGIRL, BATMAN: NIGHTWALKER)

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SON OF ULTRON

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